

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: FAO, OCON
SUBJECT: FIRST SESSION OF WORKING PARTY ON FAO COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES: PRELIMINARY JAPANESE VIEWS

1. JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO NAGATA BROUGHT SHIMATA OF JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO WILL BE ONE OF JAPANESE PARTICIPANTS IN SESSION, TO CALL ON U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MARCH 2, TO DISCUSS OBJECTIVES AND TACTICS. NAGATA AND SHIMATA SAID JAPANESE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS OF NOVEMBER 1975 UPSET EQUILIBRIUM OF REPRESENTATION, AND REDUCED INFLUENCE OF COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTING MAJOR SHARE OF FAO BUDGET. JAPAN WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR FAO BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS IN DETERMINING MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, AND EVEN PERMANENT REPRESENTATION FORMULA FOR MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR GROUP.

2. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, ON BASIS OF TALKS WITH CHAIRMAN BULA HOYOS AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES, AND IN CONSIDERATION OF FACT THAT INITIATIVE FOR CHANGE HAD ORIGINATED WITH GROUP-77, COUNSELLED THAT BEST INITIAL TACTIC FOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD BE TO LISTEN TO OTHERS' PROPOSALS, WHICH MAY NOT BE OF MUCH MOMENT, AND DEFER ANY FORMAL REACTION PENDING CONSIDERATION BY GOVERNMENTS. HE AGREED PERSONALLY WITH JAPANESE
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OBJECTIVES, BUT EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE

TO WORKING PARTY BECAUSE THEY AIMED IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM GROUP WITH ORIGINALLY PROPOSED CHANGES IN DIRECTION OF EXPANDED REPRESENTATION OF LDC'S. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' ARGUMENTS WOULD BE IN ORDER WHEN ANY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION DEVELOPED, IN SECOND SESSION OF WORKING PARTY, OR IN FIRST SESSION IF SUCH DISCUSSION IS OPENED. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTED INFORMATION FROM SECRETARIAT THAT AT LEAST ONE ASIAN COUNTRY OPPOSES AFRICAN DESIRES FOR INCREASED SEATS BY CITING FACTOR OF POPULATION.

3. JAPANESE CONCLUDED THEY WOULD WAIT AND SEE BEFORE RAISING THEIR PROPOSALS. BEAUDRY

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